

1776—1876

No. 12.

1865	Three-dollar piece; brilliant proof,	\$4 25
1796	Quarter-eagle; stars; proof,	13 50
1796	Quarter-eagle; without stars; uncirculated, .	6 50
1797	“ fine,	11 00
James I.;	Half-laurel; very good,	4 00
Japanese	Cobang; 2½ x 1¼; fine,	6 50
1836	Dollar; flying eagle; proof,	8 25
1855	“ very good,	6 50
1856	“ “	5 50
1857	“ proof,	3 50
1797	Half-dollar; pierced; poor,	3 00
1851	“ uncirculated,	3 00
1852	“ “	3 10
1815	Quarter-dollar; “	5 75
1793	Pattern set of six trade dollars,	24 00
Set of Honduras	copper coins of 1871; ten pesos, five pesos, fifty, twenty-five, ten and five centimes; beautiful proof patterns; for set, . .	18 60
1791	Washington Cent; large eagle; uncirculated, .	5 37
1791	Washington Cent; small eagle; very fine, .	8 80
Henry IV.;	Quarter-noble; extremely fine,	4 50
Commonwealth	Pound; 1649; very fair; pierced, . . .	6 00
Gold piece,	Bishop of Wolfgang; 1616; fine,	4 75
1866	Pattern five-cent piece; head of Washington reverse, small 5; nickel; uncirculated, . .	3 00
1794	Half-dime; almost fine,	4 50
1796	“ very good,	3 00
Bronze Medal,	Henry Clay; fine; size 48,	5 50
“	Maj.—Gen. George G. Meade, very fine, size 51,	5 00
Political token,	Lincoln; 1864; brass; fine; size 16, 2	87
Burgred; Penny;	fine,	2 75
Ethelred II;	“	2 25
Edward I.;	“	1 87
Five-franc piece;	Bonaparte; an. 12; very good, . . .	2 25
Mexico; Yturbe;	1822; silver piece; good,	2 37
Spanish dollar,	1871; Amadeus; fine,	2 55
1789; Mott's	tokens (two pieces); copper; good; thick and thin planchet; respectively \$2.00 and 1	75
1802	Half-cent; about as good as usually offered, .	2 00
1815	Half-dollar; very good,	2 20
1836	“ head of '37; reeded edge; very fine,	2 60
1855	Cent; slanting 5's; brilliant proof,	2 75
1854	Flying-eagle cent; pattern; copper; very fine,	2 10
1866	Pattern five-cent piece; nickel proof, . . .	2 50

THE COIN CIRCULAR.

The Coin Circular.

THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A YEAR.

Published by Geo. A. Dillingham.

STOWELL & BROTHER, PRINTERS, PITTSBURGH, PA.

TITUSVILLE, PA., FEBRUARY, 1876.

WHAT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT CONTAINS.

The following article, from the *Philadelphia Press*, describes accurately some of the interesting antiquities of the Philadelphia Mint:

"Many people will visit the United States Mint in this city this year, and among many other wonderful things nothing will be of more interest to the curious than the extensive and splendid collection of coins of all countries, reaching from the earliest ages of the history of coinage. There is a probability that some of these may be placed in the Centennial. Among the most interesting specimens of the coins of the Greek Republics are the coins of Ægina, dating nearly back to the origin of coinage. They bear the device of a tortoise, which is emblematic of the island; lying securely in the water; the reverse bears no mark or device except that of the stake on which it laid while coining. In the same collection is the silver tetradrachm, with the device, head of Minerva of ancient style; the reverse, a large owl with the letters A. O. E., the initials of Athens—this being coined in bold relief. Historical facts indicate its age as from twenty-two to twenty-three centuries. Its value is about sixty-eight cents in our money. Another of interest is a coin of Augustus and Agrippa, in whose day it was struck. In the case containing the coinage of the Greek monarchs is a small coin having the device of Macedonian horse, and no reverse except push marks. This is supposed to date before the reign of Alexander I., who lived about 500 B. C.; also, one of the reign of Alexander III., bearing an ear-ring, thus proving that, as in these days, it was fashionable to wear pendant ornaments, even in those ancient times.

The ancient realm of Egypt had no coined money before the Greek Kings, a dynasty which resulted from the conquest by Alexander of Macedon, and began at his death. A noticeable coin of the Ptolemies weighs over three ounces. In the class of the Roman family coin is an enormous bronze piece (aes), weighing 9.7 ounces, and bearing the head of Janus. It dates back about 500 years B. C. This class includes about 200 Roman coins, from Cæsar down to Byzantine, A. D. 1448; among them specimens of the coins caused to be struck by Marc Antony, bearing the number of the respective legions under his command to whom they were paid on the

obverse, while on the reverse is the rude representation of a vessel propelled by oars.

In another case, containing coins selected from the collections of all countries, is found that interesting and sacred one, the widow's mite of the New Testament. This is in bronze and very small, the device effaced; it was found near the walls of Jerusalem. Another of the same class is the Jewish shekel of Simon Maccabeus, B. C. 145, bearing the pot of manna with the shekel of Israel; reverse, the budding rod of Aaron with Jerusalem the Holy. Its value is fifty-eight cents. Also, the penny of the New Testament, denarius of Tiberius, Roman Emperor, A. D. 14-47, value, fifteen cents. One of the oldest gold coins is the golden daric, Darius of Persia, B. C. 520, valued at \$5 50, and the stater of Alexander the Great, B. C. 336-328; device, head of Alexander as Hercules with the lion's skin. Close by is the bronze of Cleopatra, the celebrated Egyptian Queen; reverse, an eagle; legend, "Kleopatrasas."

Then there is the coin of Ptolemy Philadelphus, King of Egypt, B. C. 285-246, bearing the device of Arsinoë, his wife and sister, a niece of Alexander the Great. It is of fine coinage and remarkably well preserved. There are also gold coins of Britain prior to the Roman conquest and nearly contemporaneous with the Christian era; also of Carausius, Roman Emperor in Britain. Then there are the pennies of Ethelbert and William the Conqueror, the four-pence of Robert Bruce, and near them the half-crown of Oliver Cromwell. A piece of historical interest is the device of Charlemagne, A. D. 767, valued at seven cents; also a gold coin of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain. There are, indeed, thousands of all kinds of coins."

Mr. Sellon, of Castile, N. Y., has an interesting collection of coins and curiosities. He has taken the plan of enumerating the nationalities of his coins and postage-stamps, together with describing his antiquities, Revolutionary relics and minerals, and publishing the list. Maj. Nichols, some time ago, published a statement of the number and nationalities of the coins and medals of his collection, and we believe was the first one to adopt the plan. If more of our collectors would follow this plan of publishing the condition of their collections from time to time—sometimes describing particularly the rarest or most interesting of their coins—and exchange these statements with one another they would find it mutually beneficial. Too many of the fine cabinets are seen and appreciated by their owners only. The finest and rarest medal or coin from such cabinets comes to the surface only at an auction, where it is quickly bought by some other "enthusiastic" collector who as quickly consigns it to the sanctity of his cabinet. Many of the rare coins from the Mickle sale went into obscurity, but some of them now grace the cabinets of the British Museum, where they are publicly exhibited. One of the interesting features of the meetings of the Boston and New York societies is the exhibition of the coins and medals, particularly noteworthy, which come under the notice of the members from month to month.

THE COIN CIRCULAR.

NUMISMA.

As the CIRCULAR is about to enter its second year, we hope to be again favored by as many of our old subscribers as have been satisfied with our first year's work. They all have our thanks for aiding us in our endeavors to establish this small journal. Of course we would be happy to add new names to our subscription list, which yet lacks the complement of subscriptions necessary to make our paper a "paying thing." We flatter ourselves upon our present appearance as compared with our *debut*, and hope to make better changes during the year,—our Centennial year, above all others for good resolutions and amendments. The many words of encouragement which we have received from correspondents lead us to hope that we have, in a measure, conquered the prejudice (not altogether unfounded) against small coin papers which have, in times past, been issued for short periods, thereby causing a detriment to the interests of present publications. "While there is life there is hope," and if we live long enough we will publish at least twelve more numbers of the CIRCULAR; size and subscription-price will not be changed.

About a hundred of Thomas Carlyle's English admirers, including a number of distinguished authors, have caused a medal to be struck in commemoration of his eightieth birthday, December 4th. The medal was designed by Mr. J. E. Boehm. Obverse, bust of Mr. Carlyle; reverse, "In Commemoration: Dec. 4, 1875." Silver and bronze copies are struck for the donors, with a few for presentation to public institutions; the copy which Mr. Carlyle was requested to accept is in gold.

During the last fiscal year the whole amount of coin manufactured at the mint of the United States was 39, 191,778 pieces, having the value of \$43,854,708. The cost of making this coinage was \$89,370.

Dr Linderman favors Indianapolis for the site of the new branch mint.

Judas Iscariot's ten pieces of silver were worth about \$18.25.

FEBRUARY CATALOGUE OF COINS AND MEDALS

—For Sale by—

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PRICE.

Nova Constellatio; varieties; 30 and.....	\$.40
North Am. Token; fair,.....	.25
Voce Popoli; fair,.....	.65
Virginia Half-penny; fair.....	.25
Massachusetts; 1788; fair,.....	.35
Connecticut; common varieties; 15, 20 and.....	.25
“ 1785; fair,.....	.40
“ 1786; poor,.....	.25
“ 1787; laughing head; fair,.....	.35
“ 1788; fair,.....	.50
“ 1786; "Et Lib Inde;" fair,.....	1.35
Vermont; common varieties; poor,.....	.30
“ 1785; blunt rays; fair,.....	.75
“ 1788; fair,.....	.75
New Jersey; 1786; common varieties; 20 and.....	.30
“ 1787; 15, 25 and.....	.50
“ 1788; fair,.....	.50
“ 1787; "Pluribus," fair,.....	1.00
Nova Eborac; fair,.....	.80
Talbot, A. & L. fair 30c; good,.....	.60
1793 Cent; chain; date and all the letters legible, but very much worn,.....	2.25
Fugio; fair 25; good,.....	.50
1793 Cent; wreath; date very obscure; poor,50
1794 “ common type; good,.....	.75
1795 “ lettered edge; poor,.....	.75
1795 “ medium planchet, almost good,.....	.75
1796 “ Liberty cap; fair,.....	1.25
1797 “ good,.....	1.00
1800 “ over '99; fair,.....	.75
1802 “ good.....	.60
1804 “ poor,.....	2.25
1805 “ fair, 75; good,.....	1.25
1806 “ “.....	1.00
1807 “ over '06; good,.....	.75
1808 “ almost good,.....	.50
1809 “ poor, but the "1839" legible,.....	.40
1810 “ good,.....	.50
1811 “ over '10; fair for this date.....	.60
1811 “ perfect date; good,.....	1.00
1812 “ very good,.....	1.00
1814 “ “ plain "4,".....	.75
1816 “ broken die; uncirculated,.....	.75
Confederate Cent; copper; proof,.....	6.00
Oak Tree Shilling; 1652; good,.....	5.00
“ “ Two-pence; 1662; very good,.....	4.00
Pine Tree Six-pence; 1652; good,.....	3.75

THE COIN CIRCULAR.


Two brass medalets; Catholic; oblong; have been
but little used; different; each,20
Cern; Un and Dos Centavos; 1864; a little circu-
lated, and still bright, for both,50
Chili; Un Centavo; 1853; composition; good,25

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